



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Representative Kelvin Roldán
Testimony submitted to:

The Connecticut General Assembly
Committee on Government Administration and Elections

March 7, 2011

Co-Chairs Senator Slossberg and Representative Morin, Vice Chairs Sen. Meyer and Rep. Lesser, Ranking Members Senator McLachlan and Rep. Hwang, and members of the Government Administration Elections Committee, for the record, my name is Kelvin Roldán, State Representative for the 4th District in the City of Hartford. I am here to testify in support of House Bill 5988, AN ACT CONCERNING "BUY CONNECTICUT" AND STATE CONTRACTS.

First, let me extend my appreciation to the committee for your consideration of this issue.

The "Buy Connecticut" legislation would require that any state contract with a value of more than \$2.5 million paid for with state funds include a requirement that at least 51% of the contract be performed by businesses or residents of the state. The goals here are quite simple:

- Keep Connecticut Tax dollars in Connecticut
- Help small business in the State of Connecticut
- Create jobs in Connecticut

Although Connecticut does have some laws in the books related to preferred vendor status for Connecticut companies, it's my belief that we need stronger legislation in order to ensure greater in state participation. This effort is no different than Congressman Chris Murphy's efforts around the 21st Century Buy American Act.

Thank you for your time and consideration.